**7th Grade English Language Arts**

Teacher: Mrs. Gough Team: 7B

E-mail: agough@lsps.org Phone Number: 586-285-8845

Blog: goughkms.weebly.com

**Course Content:** The following units will be covered in this year’s Language Arts classes: point of view, foreshadowing, grammar, spelling, characterization, writing process, literary elements, informational reading, and presentations. Our novels include: *The Outsiders*, by S.E. Hinton and *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred Taylor. We are also incorporating the new graphic novel *Percy Jackson & The Olympians: The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan* this year.

**Kennedy Middle School Parent-Student Handbook:** Please refer to this book (located on the Kennedy Middle School website) for attendance policy (tardy, absence, etc.) and student code of conduct (including dress code and electronic restrictions), disciplinary actions, and general school information. I will follow these rules, policies, and guidelines without exceptions.

**Teacher Contact/ Blog:** I can be reached by phone at 586-285-8845 or e-mail at agough@lsps.org

The blog site is updated daily to reflect homework, quizzes, tests, projects, or any other assignment for the class. Copies of all assignments will also be available through the blog to print at your convenience.

goughkms.weebly.com

**Materials needed:**

* Kennedy student ID
* Plenty of lined notebook paper
* Folder (for this class only)
* Acceptable writing utensil
* Box of Kleenex or Clorox Wipes

**Writing Fluencies:** At least 3 days a week you will be asked to write for five – ten minutes in your Writer’s Notebook in response to a question displayed on the board at the beginning of class. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE DATED,TITLED, and NUMBERED! This is how they are checked. There is no right or wrong answer to writing fluencies.

**RULES:**

1. Respect yourself and each other.
2. You are expected to arrive to class on time.
3. Always be prepared for and focused on class.
4. Act with maturity.
5. Take notes and ask questions.
6. Cheating, sharing, not-authorized “helping”, plagiarizing, and sleeping are all considered highly unacceptable behaviors and will be treated as such.
7. No passes, please take care of your needs before class.

**ZAP:**

 **ZAP (Zero’s Aren’t Permitted) School Work Completion Program**

 Doing your work in every class, every day is necessary for any student to succeed to his/her fullest potential: This includes class work, homework, and redo’s.

 Not only does work need to be completed, it needs to be completed prior to assessment (tests and quizzes)

 It also needs to be completed at an acceptable level of mastery, thus redo’s may be expected at times.

 ZAP is not intended to be a “gotcha” punishment, but rather a measure to ensure that time is provided for all students to turn in all of their assignments.

 Your teachers don’t want you to get ZAPPED. We want you to do your work.

 Students will always have the opportunity to complete the work prior to any consequence.

 Students and parents are responsible to get any “lost” assignments from the teachers’ Weebly site.

**Steps**:

o Step 1 - Failure to complete an assignment leads to a ZAP lunch study hall the next day unless you turn your work in to the office the next morning with your parent’s signature on the ZAP sheet.

o Step 2 - Failure to complete the assignment at lunch study hall leads to a second ZAP lunch study hall the next day unless you turn your work in to the office the next morning with your parent’s signature on the ZAP sheet.

o Step 3 - Failure to complete the assignment at the second study hall leads to a ZAP before school or after school homework club unless you turn your work in to the office by the morning of the study hall with your parent’s signature on the ZAP sheet.

o Step 4 - Failure to complete the assignment at the ZAP before school or after school homework club leads to an In-School Suspension during which the work must be completed the next day unless you turn your work in to the office the next morning with your parent’s signature on the ZAP sheet.

o Step 5 - Failure to complete the work at ISS, or reaching ISS three times will lead to an Out of School Suspension pending a parent meeting and the development of a plan with the parent to complete the work.

**Make-Up Work:** Any time you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the make-up work. If you are absent the day of a test or quiz and you knew about the test/ quiz before your absence, you will be asked to make it up the day you return. Make-up work is only allowed for excused absences. Your failure to request missed assignments or to schedule a make-up will result in a grade of Zero. Again, your grade is your responsibility! Place all absent work in the absent drawer and write ABSENT on the top otherwise it will be marked late.

**Grading Procedures:**

Each assignment will be given a point value and will be weigted. Assignments will include worksheets, writing assignments, quizzes, tests, projects, and homework. Students will be made aware of upcoming quiz and test dates at least two days prior to the test/ quiz. Students may also receive effort grades for some assignments. See student handbook for grading scale.

**Weighted grades:**

Homework: 15% of final grade

Classwork/ Participation: 15% of Final Grade

Tests/ Quizzes: 40% of Final Grade

Projects: 30% of Final Grade

**Tardy Policy:**

1. The classroom door will be locked.
2. You should report to a tardy station.
3. **QUIETLY** report to your class. If the door is locked, wait quietly in the hallway and (as soon as I am able) I will unlock the door for you. **Do Not knock and/or bang on my door**
4. **QUIETLY** enter the classroom and place your tardy admit slip on Mrs. Gough’s desk.
5. Begin today’s warm up activity.

Consequences for arriving late to your classes…

a. 3rd Tardy- Warning

b. 4th Tardy- Detention

c. 5th Tardy- Detention

d. 6th Tardy- Two detentions

e. 7th Tardy- Two detentions

f. 8th Tardy- One day ISS

g. 9th Tardy- Three days ISS

h. 10th Tardy- One day OSS

***Extra Credit- E-mail Address:***

I would like to send home e-mails to notify you of upcoming tests/ quizzes, or to check the blog for certain assignments. If you are interested in receiving these e-mails, please email me at ***agough@lsps.org*** with your name and your son/ daughter’s name along with your nameso I may enter your email address into a mailing group. If you do not want to receive the notes, I would still like an email response letting me know you reviewed this handout. Your student will receive 5 points extra credit if I receive an email from you by the end of the week. If you do not have email access, you may send in a note for the extra credit points.

**Technology:**

I will use technology as the number one source of communication in the classroom. Please take the time to look over theses websites and become familiar with them as they will be used regularly.

 #Requires a separate login for parents/ \*Means they are a free app on your android/ iPhone.

**\*Weebly:** [www.agoughkms.weebly.com](http://www.agoughkms.weebly.com)

**\*#Remind101 (for Mrs. Gough’s Classroom):** [www.remind101.com](http://www.remind101.com) (Students will be asked to sign up, for free, to receive reminders via e-mail or text from me, Parents are also encouraged to sign up to receive these reminders) Follow directions below:

**Send text to: 484-306-0387 with the message: @7bla1**

**Or**

**Send an e-mail to** **7bla1@mail.remind101.com** **(You can leave the subject blank)**

**\*#Remind 101 (For Team 7B): www. Remind101.com**

**Send text to: 484-306-0387 with the message: @team7b1**

**Or**

**Send an e-mail to** **team7b1@mail.remind101.com** **(You can leave the subject blank)**

**\*#Edmdodo**: [www.edmodo.com](http://www.edmodo.com) (Students will be given a user-id and password to access this on-line classroom. Parents can request their own user-id and password from Mrs. Gough)

**\*Spellingcity**: [www.spellingcity.com](http://www.spellingcity.com) Used for weekly/ bi-weekly spelling words, packets and tests.

https://www.spellingcity.com/abbey0323/ (Shortcut to my homepage)

**TweenTribune:** [www.tweentribune.com](http://www.tweentribune.com) (Students will be given a user-id and password to access this on-line informational reading website)

**\*YouTube:** [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) Used for uploading videos made in class or educational videos that are being used in the classroom.

**\*#PowerSchool:** Grades will be updated weekly. Your user-id and password are provided through the main office.